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LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-16-09
April 11, 2016

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice and hold a public hearing on the issuance of this permit. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau address or on the Department's website www.deq.mt.gov.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant: Montanore Minerals Corporation

Facility Name: Montanore Project

Facility Location: Upper Libby Creek Drainage
Libby, MT 59923

County: Lincoln

Receiving Waters: Libby Creek and alluvial ground water
Ramsey Creek
Poorman Creek

Permit Number: MT0030279

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is reopening the public comment period on the draft Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES) permit for the Montanore Project, a proposed copper-silver mine near Libby, MT.

The draft MPDES permit is for the discharge of treated adit water at three existing outfalls (Outfalls 001-003) and for the discharge of storm water from four new storm water-only outfalls (Outfalls 004-008). Since the last public notice of the draft MPDES permit, updates were made to the existing effluent limits and additional effluent limits were established at Outfalls 001-003. Additionally, the draft MPDES permit establishes effluent limits at Outfalls 004-008. The draft MPDES permit also requires the facility to develop and maintain a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan that includes

establishing Best Management Practices to further control or eliminate discharges of storm water. Finally, the draft MPDES permit requires the monitoring and reporting of the following: the effluent discharges at Outfalls 001-003, the storm water discharges at Outfalls 004-008, and the ambient upstream conditions in Libby Creek. The public notice documents for the draft MPDES permit are available at the following DEQ website: <http://deq.mt.gov/Public/notices/WQnotices>.

DEQ's Record of Decision, the Joint Final Environmental Impact Statement, and other documents for the Montanore Project are available at the following DEQ website:
<http://deq.mt.gov/Land/hardrock/Montanore-Mine-Project>.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS May 18, 2016. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS May 18, 2016 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail the Department at DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov.

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The administrative record, including the permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

The State of Montana makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in state government. Persons needing an accommodation must notify Jenna Stamper no later than **April 26, 2016**, to allow adequate time to make needed arrangements. You may call Jenna at 444-3080 or write to her at the address noted to make your request known.

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